February 6, 1959

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

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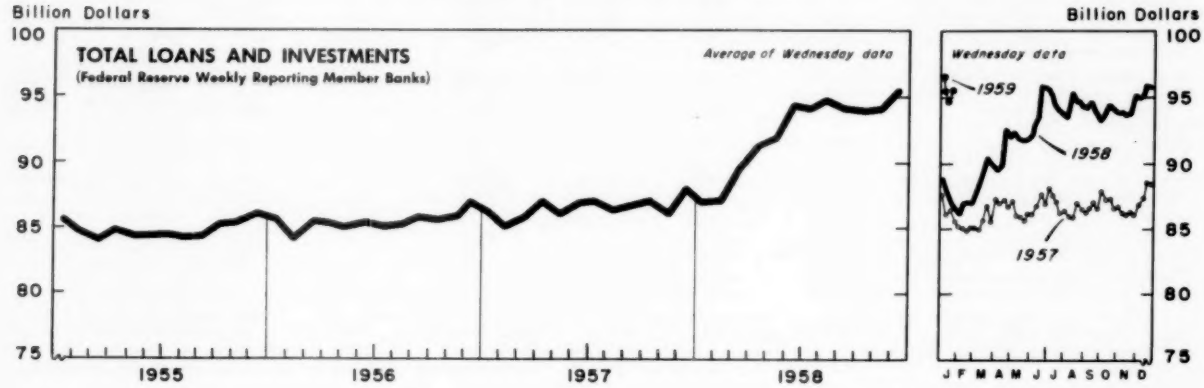
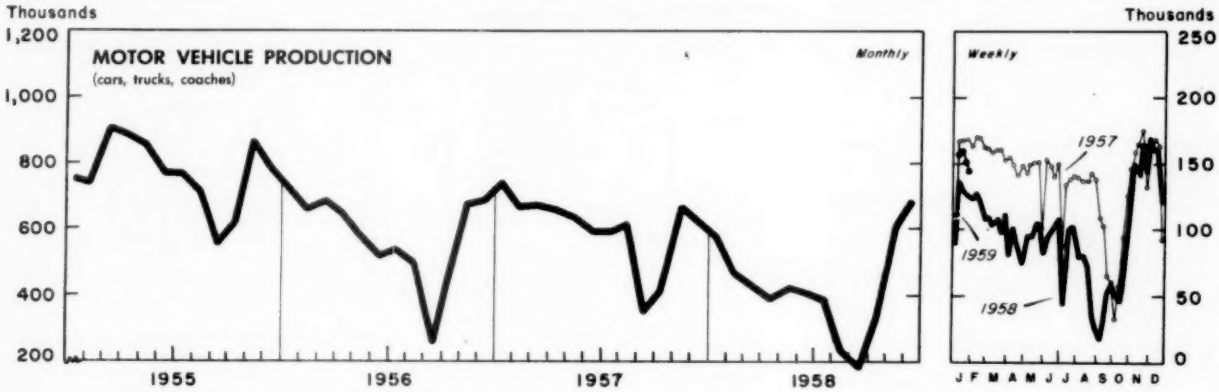
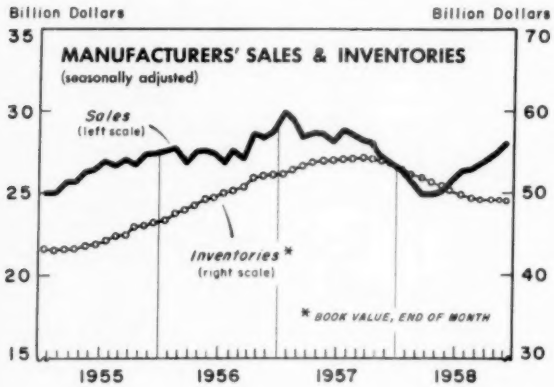
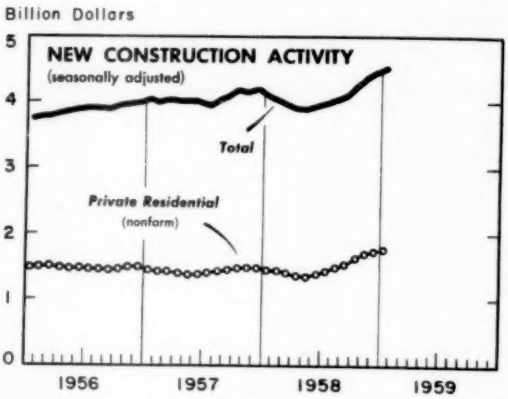
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS









WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1958		1959			
	Jan. 25	Feb. 1	Jan. 10	Jan. 17	Jan. 24	Jan. 31
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*118.9	119.3	119.4	119.6	119.5
Farm products.....do....	.....	*93.7	91.6	91.5	92.3	92.0
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*109.5	108.4	109.0	109.2	109.0
All other.....do....	.....	*126.1	127.3	127.3	127.4	127.4
22 commodities 2/.....do....	85.4	84.4	85.6	85.2	85.3	84.7
Department store sales.....do....	100	98	121	116	105	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	3,084	3,137	**3,220	**3,109	.....	.....
State and UCFE programs.....do....	2,895	2,939	2,599	2,506	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	333	326	321	294	296	322
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,878	30,625	32,008	31,710	31,385	31,150
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	24,949	24,632	28,275	27,708	27,368	27,094
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	19,216	19,089	19,131	18,901	18,769	18,817
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	592	580	575	564	502	369
Reporting member banks (of F.R.System) in leading cities: 4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	56,556	56,134	58,749	58,693	59,192	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	24,592	24,790	28,253	28,286	28,321	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	86,521	86,187	95,449	94,694	95,597	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	25,861	25,923	31,524	31,266	32,290	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)....do....	29,971	30,638	30,825	30,651	30,414	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,753	8,744	9,610	9,635	9,656	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	4.02	4.00	4.40	4.41	4.41	4.44
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/...1941-43=10..	41.20	41.88	54.89	55.62	56.04	55.16
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	44.03	44.72	58.51	59.25	59.75	58.84
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,381	1,353	1,366	1,382	1,334	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	12,399	12,238	13,554	13,324	13,394	.....
Motor vehicles (cars, trucks, coaches).....number..	126,639	122,990	156,051	158,930	151,582	144,703
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,923	6,842	7,052	7,087	7,194	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	1,496	1,459	2,085	2,111	2,056	2,178
Percent of capacity.....	#55.4	#54.1	73.6	74.6	72.6	76.9
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	551	550	550	586	554	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	274	279	279	300	286	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning February 2, 1959: Production, 2,256 thous. short tons; operating rate, 79.7 percent. * Monthly index for January 1958. ** Includes persons reported under temporary programs (TUC) and under Ex-Servicemen's Unemployment Compensation Act of 1958 (UCX); persons under TUC were excluded prior to the January 30, 1959, issue of this report. # Based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons); not comparable with 1959 rates which are based on January 1, 1959, annual capacity (147,633,670 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1957		1958			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Manufacturers' sales:						
Value (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	27,270	26,347	27,323	28,820	r26,792	27,770
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	13,577	13,152	12,687	13,584	r12,911	13,604
Primary metal.....do....	2,102	1,954	2,069	2,300	r1,999	2,095
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,433	1,336	1,696	1,684	r1,415	1,390
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	4,011	4,131	3,993	4,112	r3,736	4,040
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	3,463	3,495	2,093	2,588	r3,208	3,569
Lumber and furniture.....do....	854	769	933	982	r843	835
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	659	556	757	757	r640	606
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	13,693	13,195	14,636	15,236	r13,881	14,166
Food and beverage.....do....	4,258	4,176	4,571	4,730	r4,347	4,338
Tobacco.....do....	358	380	398	408	370	401
Textile.....do....	1,085	954	1,131	1,219	r1,123	1,086
Paper.....do....	871	809	958	1,013	r917	898
Chemical.....do....	1,856	1,726	2,137	2,164	r1,881	1,861
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,744	2,893	2,774	2,874	r2,763	3,163
Rubber.....do....	414	414	445	527	488	.....
Value (adjusted), total.....do....	27,221	26,690	26,804	27,158	r27,503	28,038
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	13,548	13,092	12,723	12,943	r13,295	13,589
Primary metal.....do....	2,156	2,073	2,065	2,182	r2,113	2,232
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,429	1,431	1,593	1,569	1,553	1,556
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	4,175	3,954	3,999	3,993	r3,951	3,933
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	3,255	3,147	2,438	2,592	r3,040	3,193
Lumber and furniture.....do....	850	851	850	898	r891	889
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	659	654	701	653	r667	681
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	13,673	13,598	14,081	14,215	r14,208	14,449
Food and beverage.....do....	4,257	4,337	4,312	4,377	r4,436	4,463
Tobacco.....do....	351	392	386	385	378	393
Textile.....do....	1,025	999	1,027	1,042	r1,102	1,093
Paper.....do....	862	861	949	947	r936	955
Chemical.....do....	1,941	1,890	2,071	2,077	r2,023	2,036
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,717	2,654	2,860	2,903	r2,819	2,896
Rubber.....do....	431	427	464	493	508	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Includes data for "other industries" not shown.

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ITEM	1957		1958			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS - Continued						
Manufacturers' inventories, end of month:						
Book value (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	53,746	53,688	48,910	49,015	r49,164	49,481
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	31,306	31,137	27,745	27,687	r27,684	27,852
Primary metal.....do....	4,443	4,466	4,099	4,132	r4,217	4,320
Fabricated metal.....do....	3,002	2,963	2,785	2,840	r2,809	2,791
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	10,415	10,283	8,918	8,862	r8,866	8,850
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).do....	8,006	7,885	6,718	6,665	r6,593	6,631
Lumber and furniture.....do....	1,794	1,814	1,691	1,664	r1,683	1,722
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	1,210	1,257	1,164	1,148	r1,162	1,180
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	8.7	8.5	7.7	7.7	r7.7	7.7
Goods in process.....do....	13.0	12.7	11.3	11.3	11.2	11.3
Finished goods.....do....	9.6	9.9	8.8	8.7	r8.8	8.9
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....mil. of dol..	22,440	22,551	21,165	21,328	r21,480	21,629
Food and beverage.....do....	5,026	4,912	4,736	4,917	r4,958	4,904
Tobacco.....do....	1,965	1,962	1,783	1,838	r1,861	1,959
Textile.....do....	2,562	2,628	2,432	2,385	r2,371	2,418
Paper.....do....	1,403	1,444	1,391	1,395	r1,405	1,440
Chemical.....do....	3,720	3,863	3,647	3,686	r3,724	3,785
Petroleum and coal.....do....	3,730	3,644	3,369	3,374	r3,390	3,291
Rubber.....do....	1,079	1,103	983	981	1,002	.....
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	9.0	9.1	8.4	8.5	8.6	8.9
Goods in process.....do....	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	r2.9	2.9
Finished goods.....do....	10.5	10.5	9.9	9.9	10.0	9.8
Book value (adjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	53,871	53,520	49,296	49,337	r49,301	49,221
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	31,511	31,148	28,048	27,932	r27,877	27,824
Primary metal.....do....	4,279	4,269	4,043	4,005	r4,058	4,121
Fabricated metal.....do....	3,095	3,086	2,842	2,928	r2,896	2,907
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	10,517	10,374	9,074	9,026	r8,954	8,897
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).do....	7,976	7,801	6,751	6,594	r6,576	6,565
Lumber and furniture.....do....	1,845	1,827	1,732	1,721	r1,730	1,735
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	1,274	1,270	1,212	1,221	r1,223	1,192
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	8.6	8.3	7.5	7.7	r7.6	7.5
Goods in process.....do....	13.1	12.7	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3
Finished goods.....do....	9.8	10.1	9.2	9.0	r9.0	9.0
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....mil. of dol..	22,360	22,372	21,248	21,405	r21,424	21,397
Food and beverage.....do....	4,732	4,689	4,598	4,694	r4,676	4,659
Tobacco.....do....	1,965	1,924	1,838	1,857	r1,861	1,902
Textile.....do....	2,628	2,679	2,499	2,490	2,456	2,465
Paper.....do....	1,417	1,444	1,405	1,423	r1,419	1,440
Chemical.....do....	3,763	3,820	3,747	3,760	r3,767	3,742
Petroleum and coal.....do....	3,657	3,644	3,271	3,276	r3,324	3,291
Rubber.....do....	1,101	1,092	1,024	1,022	1,022	.....
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.7	8.6	8.6
Goods in process.....do....	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.9	r3.0	3.0
Finished goods.....do....	10.4	10.5	9.7	9.8	9.9	9.8
Manufacturers' orders:						
New orders, net (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	26,056	25,067	26,855	28,667	r27,431	27,855
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,385	11,890	12,301	13,395	r13,452	13,708
Primary metal.....do....	1,758	1,563	2,136	2,341	r2,265	2,280
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,144	1,189	1,673	1,666	r1,393	1,381
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,431	3,520	4,020	3,929	r3,656	3,996
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	3,616	3,669	1,630	2,674	r3,587	3,444
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	13,671	13,177	14,554	15,272	r13,979	14,147
New orders, net (adjusted), total.....do....	26,030	25,060	27,047	27,903	r27,833	28,144
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,362	11,399	12,859	13,530	r13,574	13,542
Primary metal.....do....	1,686	1,512	2,334	2,414	r2,262	2,198
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,243	1,213	1,578	1,602	r1,601	1,409
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,652	3,422	4,242	3,975	r4,019	3,989
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	3,345	2,932	1,946	2,835	r3,007	2,842
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	13,668	13,661	14,188	14,373	r14,259	14,602
Unfilled orders, end of month (unadjusted), total.....do....	51,977	50,697	46,232	46,079	r46,718	46,803
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	49,389	48,127	43,577	43,388	r43,929	44,033
Primary metal.....do....	5,187	4,796	3,867	3,908	r4,174	4,359
Fabricated metal.....do....	3,630	3,483	3,086	3,068	r3,046	3,037
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	17,731	17,120	16,308	16,125	r16,045	16,001
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	18,576	18,750	16,184	16,270	r16,649	16,524
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	2,588	2,570	2,655	2,691	r2,789	2,770
FINANCE						
Stocks, cash dividend payments publicly reported: 2/						
Total dividend payments.....mil. of dol..	r340.5	r2,224.9	r1,723.1	r819.5	r314.1	2,139.0
Finance.....do....	r79.8	r252.1	r119.2	r173.3	r79.0	268.9
Manufacturing.....do....	r143.2	r1,416.5	r1,143.2	r271.8	r117.4	1,337.5
Mining.....do....	2.4	r173.7	r110.7	8.5	2.5	141.0
Public utilities:						
Communications.....do....	1.3	r69.3	r71.6	r174.4	1.3	73.4
Electric and gas.....do....	r88.7	r147.5	r151.3	r100.5	r91.5	161.7
Railroad.....do....	r3.6	r81.9	r59.0	r19.4	r2.8	73.8
Trade.....do....	r14.2	r50.3	r41.5	r65.4	r13.2	50.8

r/ Revised. 1/ Includes data for "other industries" not shown. 2/ Revised beginning January 1955; revisions not shown will be published later.

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ITEM	1957		1958			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS						
Operations on scheduled airlines:						
Miles flown, revenue.....thousands..	57,522	61,637	61,695	59,373	49,049	.....
Express and freight ton-miles flown.....do....	20,684	21,730	28,188	29,487	24,263	.....
Mail ton-miles flown.....do....	7,761	11,082	8,190	9,124	8,348	.....
Passengers originated, revenue.....do....	3,113	3,274	3,433	3,564	2,958	.....
Passenger-miles flown, revenue.....millions..	1,790	2,031	2,100	2,101	1,777	.....

COMMODITY PRICES	1957	1958				1959
	December	January	October	November	December	January
Prices received and paid by farmers: 1/						
Prices received, all farm products.....1910-14=100..	r237	r241	r249	r247	r244	244
Crops.....do....	r212	r215	r221	r217	r213	215
Livestock and products.....do....	r259	r263	r273	r272	r269	270
Prices paid:						
All commodities and services.....do....	r269	r270	r274	r274	r274	276
Family living items.....do....	r284	r285	r287	r288	r287	288
Production items.....do....	r258	r259	r265	r263	r265	268
All commodities, services, interest, taxes, and wage rates.....do....	r288	r290	r294	r294	r295	298
Parity ratio.....do....	r82	r83	r85	r84	r83	82
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
New construction (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	3,763	3,326	4,745	4,448	4,024	3,657
Private, total.....do....	2,737	2,408	3,184	3,119	2,887	2,603
Residential (nonfarm).....do....	1,365	1,165	1,764	1,741	1,605	1,433
New dwelling units.....do....	1,050	895	1,340	1,330	1,260	1,145
Additions and alterations.....do....	265	220	370	354	288	233
Nonresidential buildings, total.....do....	799	746	750	760	722	660
Industrial.....do....	277	274	175	178	176	173
Commercial.....do....	306	270	319	327	305	268
Farm construction.....do....	100	100	134	114	100	98
Public utilities.....do....	459	385	519	487	444	398
Public, total.....do....	1,026	918	1,561	1,329	1,137	1,054
Nonresidential buildings.....do....	343	343	427	379	361	356
Military facilities.....do....	97	87	140	125	110	105
Highway.....do....	334	230	630	485	350	285
New construction (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	4,175	4,068	4,279	4,378	4,473	4,525
Private, total.....do....	2,882	2,830	2,944	3,015	3,049	3,085
Residential (nonfarm).....do....	1,461	1,445	1,623	1,682	1,715	1,767
Nonresidential buildings, total.....do....	790	769	706	717	716	688
Industrial.....do....	272	269	172	175	173	170
Commercial.....do....	304	288	296	302	305	288
Farm construction.....do....	133	134	134	134	134	130
Public utility.....do....	483	469	464	464	467	485
Public, total.....do....	1,293	1,238	1,335	1,363	1,424	1,440
Nonresidential buildings.....do....	386	382	406	395	408	399
Military facilities.....do....	110	107	118	120	125	130
Highway.....do....	514	451	470	505	538	559

r/ Revised. 1/ Data revised beginning September 1952 to reflect (1) revision of weights, (2) linkage of the new indexes to the former series as of September 1952, and (3) expansion and improvement of commodity coverage; revisions not shown will be published later.

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